

Serial #: 09/444,739

In reply to Office action mailed: September 10, 2003

Page 2 of 26

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the specification without prejudice as follows, and consider the subsequent remarks.

Page 18, lines 27-28

31 [Figure 144 is a flow chart illustrating an open market environment for electronic content.]

Page 224, line 14

BSH
5/17/06
32
5 One embodiment of the present invention is provided for utilizing all user indicia for the purpose of customizing a user interface. Note operation 6700 of Figure 67. In use, a user profile is developed in operation 6800 of Figure 68. Such user indicia may include any of search requests, products purchased, products looked at but not purchased, products purchased and returned, reasons for returning products, customer stated profile including income level, education level, stated profession, etc. as well as preferences of the user. Figure [23B] 69 illustrates one method for developing a user profile. In operation 6900, user information such as search requests, shopping events, and browsing habits may be collected by the system or by the user's computer for periodic download to the system. All of the user information would be placed in a database in operation 6901 for retrieval when necessary. Thus, a user's buying pattern for a particular type of item can be readily estimated with relative surety in operation 6902 each time a user uses the system. Further, the user's current activities can be logged and entered into the database in operation 6903, thereby ensuring up to the minute accuracy. In operation 6801, an item for purchase with a set of features is selected based on the user profile and is displayed. The item may be selected from a group of items having characteristics that corresponds to a predicted buying pattern of the user. The presentation of the set of features is customized based on the user profile in operation 6802. The user is allowed to select the item for purchase. See operation 6803.

Page 274, line 9

BSH
5/17/06
B3
4 One embodiment of the present invention is provided for automatically generating a student educational curriculum. See Figure 72. First, in operation 7200, educational program

Serial #: 09/444,739

In reply to Office action mailed: September 10, 2003

Page 3 of 26

33

offerings are displayed, which a student is allowed to review. Next, in operation 7201, the student is prompted to define his current expertise by completing a student profile (user indicia), which is received by the invention in operation 7202 and used to generate a user profile in operation 7203. Referring to Figure [25B] 73, for example, the student profile may define a current expertise. The education curriculum would be generated based on the current expertise in operation 7300. Then, the student defines his training goal, such as a specific certification or degree (additional user indicia), which is received in operation 7301. Or the training goal may be taken from the student profile in operation 7302. The education curriculum is generated to fulfill the training goal in operation 7303. The student's progress is monitored and revised educational curriculums are produced, when necessary, in operation 7304 based on the monitored progress. Finally, an education curriculum based on the user profile is generated in operation [2514] 7204 of Figure 72.

BSH
5/17/06

12
Page 431, line 16

34

Recommendation functions may take up multiple formats. The most common format are simple services to allow the site's users to provide direct feedback, positive or negative, and recommendations about the content or products on the site. By providing these services, the site may create a community where users can interact with each other, furthering the site's worth. For example, a [sict] site could allow for users to submit book reviews. The information is then available for consumption by the general public. While the technology to implement this is rather simple, the process may prove to be a little more complex. The process includes receiving input, reviewing recommendations, filtering and approving content, and then posting the review or recommendations. The lack of a filtration or review process could be devastating to a site.